

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
NEW JERSEY STATE
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE
LICENSE OF

ELINOR REED, L.P.N.
License # NP 05537200

TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

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Administrative Action

FINAL ORDER
OF DISCIPLINE

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("the Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and on which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent is a licensed practical nurse in the State of New Jersey, and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.

2. On or about February 9, 2013, at New Jersey Veterans' Memorial Hospital in Vineland, New Jersey, respondent was administering medication to patients and went to the room of Mr. and Mrs. B., who were patients in the facility. She left medication for Mr. B. and for Mrs. B.

3. Mr. and Mrs. B. were not ready, so respondent left the medication for both of them. (Exhibit A, T12-2 to 9). Later on, Mrs. B. went to respondent and informed her that Mr. B. had taken her medication instead of his own medication.

4. Respondent claims that Mrs. B. told her that she, respondent, should not report the fact that Mr. B. took Mrs. B.'s medication, however respondent states that she did not report that Mr. B. took Mrs. B.'s medication because she did not believe that it had happened.

5. Respondent knew that Mr. B. had not taken his own medication.

6. Respondent charted in the medication administration record that Mr. B. had taken his medication, and charted that Mrs. B. had taken her medication. (Exhibit A, T16-13 to 25). Respondent did not indicate in the medical records that Mrs. B. claimed she had not taken her medication, or that Mrs. B. claimed that Mr. B. had taken her medication.) (Exhibit A, T7-13 to 25). Respondent did not report to anyone at the facility until the next day, when she came in for her shift.

7. Respondent indicated on her renewal applications for 2012 and 2014 that she would have completed all required nursing continuing education by May 31, 2012 and 2014, respectively.

8. Respondent was asked to document all nursing continuing education completed since May 31, 2010.. Although respondent documented completion of some in-service courses completed in 2012, and sent in academic transcripts from the 1980s and 1990s, the only eligible continuing education that she documented consisted of sixty (60) contact hours of continuing education completed on June 11, 2014.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Respondent's documentation in the medication administration record that Mr. B. and Mrs. B. took their medication as usual on February 9, 2013, when she had reason to question whether or not that was the case, and, in fact, knew that Mr. B. had

not taken his medication; and respondent's failure to advise medical personnel at the facility that Mr. B. may have taken Mrs. B.'s medication, constitutes professional misconduct within the intendment of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) .

2. Respondent's indication on the renewal forms for 2012 and 2014 that she would have completed all required continuing education by May 31, 2012 and 2014, respectively, constitutes misrepresentation in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b).

3. Respondent's failure to timely complete required continuing education for the 2012 and 2014 renewal period constitutes a violation of N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3, subjecting respondent to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and (h).

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline was entered on July 9, 2014, provisionally imposing a reprimand and a civil penalty in the amount of \$500. A copy of the Order was served upon respondent by certified and regular mail at her address of record. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th business day following entry unless respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

The record reflects that the certified mailing of the Provisional Order was signed for. The regular mailing was not returned. No response has been received to date. The Board considered this matter and determined that service had been effected, as the Provisional Order had been mailed to respondent's address of record with the Board. The Board further

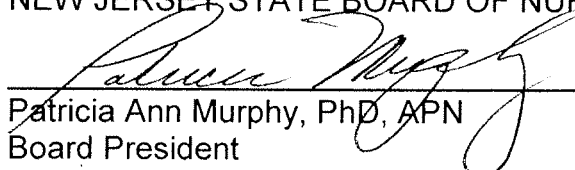
found that as no discrepancies had been raised with respect to the findings and conclusions of the Provisional Order, additional proceedings were not necessary, and the Provisional Order should be made final.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 13th day of September 2014,
ORDERED that:

1. A public reprimand is hereby imposed for the violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) in connection with respondent's failure to accurately document that Mr. B. had not taken his medication, and respondent's failure to indicate in the medical record or advise medical personnel that Mr. B. may have taken his wife's medication.
2. A public reprimand is hereby imposed for respondent's misrepresentation on the 2012 and 2014 renewal application that she would have completed all required continuing education by May 31, 2012 and 2014, respectively.
3. A civil penalty in the amount of \$500.00 (\$250 for each renewal period) is hereby imposed for respondent's failure to timely complete continuing education requirements for the 2012 and 2014 renewal period. Payment shall be in the form of a certified check or money order, made payable to the State of New Jersey, and sent to the attention of George Hebert, Executive Director, Board of Nursing, P.O. Box 45010, 124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, Newark, NJ 07101, within 21 days of the filing of this order.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:


Patricia Ann Murphy, PhD, APN
Board President